pale ! Little Edy gave me a bunch of real flowers that she had picked in the country the day before.

Young Norman Forbes-Robertson was the Moses of the original cast. He played the part again at the Lyceum. How charming he was ! And how very, very young ! He at once gave promise of being a good actor and of having done the right thing in following his brother on to the stage. At the present day I consider him the only actor on the stage who can play Shakespeare's fools as they should be played.

Among the girls " walking on " was Kate Rorke. This made me take a special interest in watching what she did later on. No one who saw her fine performance in " The Profligate " could easily forget it, and I shall never understand why the London public ever let her go.

It was during the run of " Olivia " that Henry Irving became sole lessee of the Lyceum Theatre. For a long time he had been contemplating the step, but it was one of such magnitude that it could not be done in a hurry. I daresay he found it difficult to separate from Mrs. Bateman and from her daughter, who had for such a long time been his " leading lady/' He had to be a little cruel, not for the last time, in a career devoted unremittingly and unrelentingly to his art and his ambition.

It was said by an idle tongue in later years that rich ladies financed Henry Irving's ventures. The only shadow of foundation for this statement is that at the beginning of Ms tenancy of the Lyceum, the Baroness Burdett-Coutts lent him a certain sum of money, every farthing of which was repaid during the first few months of his

management.

The first letter that I ever received from Henry Irving was written on July 20, 1878, from ISA, Grafton Street, the house in which he lived during the entire period of his Lyceum management.